Development of Tourism

3528. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to give a new fillip for the department of tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism takes several steps to boost tourism in the country through aggressive marketing strategies giving wide publicity through electronic and print media campaigns, increasing its efforts in road shows, trade fairs and exhibitions, face lifting the existing products and developing new products, encouraging and providing financial support to create world class infrastructure, and better connectivity, and giving greater focus to new emerging markets in the new regions of China, North East Asia and South East Asia, aiming at positioning India as a desirable, competitive and a year round tourist destination in the world. The outlay for the current year has been significantly increased to carry out these activities.

Allocation for Development of Tourism

3529. SHRIGIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the income generated by her Ministry during the last 2 years, State-wise; and

(b) the amount allocated for the department of tourism, during last 2 years State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the year 2004 has been estimated at Rs. 21, 828 crores compared to Rs. 16,429 crores during 2003. State-wise figures are not maintained.

(b) A statement indicating the State-wise Annual Plan Allocation of outlays for tourism sector during 2003-04 and 2004-05 as received from Planning Commission is enclosed.